

DECLASSIFIED

WEDNESDAY  
AUGUST 25, 1954

Having spent the night at Versailles, I met Bob Kleim and Blair Clark at the office. Kleiman had inside information, derived from one of Mendès' key officials, to reveal to me. It indicated quite clearly that, if it was correct, Mendès had all along intended to kill the EDC Treaty.

Ben

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~/Javits of New York discussed with me his project to create a sort of Union of European Industrialists devoted to raising the standard of living of workers under the banner of "free enterprise".

Harold Callender called. He has become convinced that Mendès wishes to kill the Treaty, and entertains no exalted opinion of his character.

I went over to see John Hughes on this subject. He has seen several of the French political leaders today; they all take a gloomy view of EDC prospects in the Assembly, deprived of any Governmental support.

The Wolcott Blairs and the Forthaults came in to see us this evening for champagne and conversation.

Miss Schukraft, André de Staercke, and Tommy had dinner with us, and afterwards we sent the following telegrams to Washington, which are calculated to cause quite a disturbance:

"SENT: SECSTATE WASHINGTON. NIACT.

"LIMIT DISTRIBUTION.

"FOR MERCHANT.

"Hold your hat and read immediately following telegram. Believe it our only chance, and we might win on it. If recommendation accepted, requires swift and decisive action. BRUCE."

"SENT: SECSTATE WASHINGTON. NIACT. COLED 29.

"LIMITED DISTRIBUTION.

"Thorough canvass of the political leaders who are pro-EDC and will have to carry the burden of the debate shows them unanimous in view that Mendès-France

|                                                                                                 |                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR                                                                    |                    |
| PREVIEWED BY <u>CEC</u>                                                                         | DATE <u>7-1-81</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> or XDS <input type="checkbox"/> EXT. DATE _____                        |                    |
| COLED <u>A20H</u>                                                                               | REASON(S) _____    |
| ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS <input type="checkbox"/>                                              |                    |
| DECLASSIFIED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELEASABLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                    |
| RELEASE DENIED <input type="checkbox"/>                                                         |                    |
| PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____                                                                      |                    |

DECLASSIFIED

WEDNESDAY  
AUGUST 25, 1954

-2-

is doing and will do his utmost to defeat the EDC Treaty. Accordingly, they are convinced they will be unable to obtain a favorable vote after the forthcoming discussions in the National Assembly even with such amendments added as would not require resubmission to the other Parliaments.

"There remains one possibility of which I strongly advocate the adoption. I am assured it would have the full support of Adenauer. It has been discussed with no one else since, unless the American and British Governments should be in agreement, it might be inadvisable to propose it, and also the dangers of a leak as to this intention might well prove fatal to its implementation. The great advantage of this proposal is that it would strike at the weakest point in Mendès-France's armour, namely, his fear that the French public and French parliamentarians will become aware of his country's isolated position vis-à-vis its partners. If the united front displayed by the five at Brussels were reinforced at such a meeting by the presence of U.S. and U.K. government representatives, the consequences of French isolation would, in my opinion, be effectively dramatized.

"Therefore, I suggest that, if you should be favorable to this suggestion, and if the President consents to it, you at once consult the British Government, seek its cooperation, request President Eisenhower to communicate by telephone with Sir Winston, and dispatch the following joint message in the personal names of the President and Prime Minister:

"BEGIN TEXT.

"MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE U.K. TO MR. PAUL-HENRI SPAAK, PRESIDENT OF THE BRUSSELS CONFERENCE.

"We have studied the communiqué of the six Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the states parties to the EDC Treaty, as well as the two accompanying documents,

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

WEDNESDAY  
AUGUST 25 1954

-3-

namely, the proposed French protocol and the draft declaration approved by the Ministers of the other five states.

"We have noted with satisfaction that the communiqué of the Brussels Conference reaffirms the agreement of the six Ministers upon the fundamental principles of European policy.

"A comparison of the two documents indicates to us that agreement was nearly reached on a number of points at issue during the Conference.

"The decision that the French Government is called upon to take on the ratification of the EDC Treaty is of capital importance, not only for the signatory states, but also for the whole free world, its security, its liberty, and the maintenance of peace.

"We are convinced that Governments adhering to the same fundamental principles should make a final effort to reach agreement. We suggest that the six Governments should meet again in order to reach an understanding on the application of the EDC Treaty. This is particularly important, since the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom, after exhaustive examination, have been unable to discover any practicable and desirable alternative to the principle of the Treaty.

"We are prepared, if agreeable to you, to designate representatives to attend such a conference, which could be held in London on August 30, which might postpone for a few days the scheduled decision of the French Parliament.

"We are informing each of the signatory governments of this message. END TEXT.

"It would be essential, if this is to be done, that the message be transmitted so that receipt would be had by other Governments not later than noon Friday, since the assembly debate commences Saturday. It is most unlikely that Mendès would refuse. I am confident I can answer for the other countries concerned. Since it

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

WEDNESDAY  
AUGUST 25, 1954

-4-

is already after midnight, I have not had a chance to clear this with Ambassador Dillon but will inform him of it the first thing tomorrow and ask him to make his comments directly to you. BRUCE."

It is evident the pro-EDC forces in France are incapable of working in an effective way, and this seems to me to represent the last gamble on EDC. And so its sponsor, Monnet, thinks.

I have no expectation of British acceptance of this proposal. Eden is the only one of their top officials who might appreciate its speculative possibilities. But how firm is he against the recreation of a German national army and German general staff?

DECLASSIFIED